(a) whether Government is aware of the recent developments in Pakistan when its army is rooting out Talibans and terrorist outfits who are waging furious war in that country due to which millions of Pakistani citizens are suffering and became homeless and living in refugee camps; and

(b) if so, whether Government of India plans to help such people who are suffering due to war between Taliban and Pakistan's army, on humanitarian grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR): Yes.

(b) No request has been received from the Government of Pakistan for assistance in this regard.

**Amenities in urban areas**

2166. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in a recent report published by UNDP, India: Urban Poverty Report, it has been mentioned that India will have over 41 per cent of its population, around 575 million people living in urban areas by 2030, from the figures of 286 million;

(b) if so, whether Government has envisaged any plan for the requirement of housing and their living conditions in these urban places; and

(c) the present situation in this regard and the amenities and housing infrastructure Government proposes to have for the present 80 million population in urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The "India: Urban Poverty Report" predicts that if the existing conditions prevail, the urban population of India may go up from above 315 million in 2005 to about 650 million in 2030.

(b) and (c) Government launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in December, 2005 with the basic objective to strive for holistic slum development by providing adequate shelter and basic infrastructure facilities to the urban poor/slum dwellers in identified urban areas. Additional Central Assistance is provided to States for taking up projects for housing and infrastructural facilities for slum dwellers/urban poor in 65 select cities in the country under the Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP). Other cities and towns are covered under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). The Government has also launched new scheme of Affordable Housing in Partnership with an outlay of Rs. 5000 crores for construction of 1 million houses for EWS/LIG/MIG with at least

25% for EWS category. The scheme aims at partnership between various agencies/ Government/parastatals/Urban Local Bodies/developers. The Government has also launched the scheme for Interest Subsidy for Housing the Urban Poor (ISHUP) that envisages the provision of interest subsidy to EWS and LIG segments to enable them to buy or construct houses.

Furthermore, the Government has proposed to launch a new scheme called Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for the slum dwellers and the urban poor. It aims at providing support to States that are willing-to provide property rights to the slum dwellers. The Government's effort would be to create Slum free India through implementation of RAY.

**Poverty alleviation for beggars, slum dwellers**

†2167. SHRI GANGA CHARAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data of the number of beggars and the people sleeping on footpaths and living in slums;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to solve their problems and alleviate poverty?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) As per the figures of Census of India, 2001 the slum population of 1743 towns/cities of the country (having population 20,000 and above) was 52.4 million. The data of the number of beggars and the people sleeping on footpath are not available in this Ministry. The State-wise slum data is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Government has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) with effect from December 3, 2005 to address the issues of provision of housing and civic amenities to slum dwellers/urban poor, in addition to city-wide infrastructure facilities. The Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) programme addresses housing and civic amenities in 63 Mission cities. Similar problems of non-Mission cities are addressed through the scheme of Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). The mission period is 2005-2012.

Under the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY), Central assistance is provided to States to enable the urban poor including slum dwellers to undertake self-employment ventures, develop/improve skills and access wage employment opportunities.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.